

ber, 1888, and continued as such superintendent until June 30, 1893. He is a practicing physician of this city and is a son-in-law of Judge Samuel C. Parks, who was at one time the law partner of Abraham Lincoln, and was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Idaho under Lincoln, and of Wyoming and New Mexico under Hayes and Arthur's administrations. Dr. Wiles is a gentleman whose purity of character and high personal honor is known to every citizen in this community. A CORRECTION reporter called upon him and the following interview occurred:

Reporter: Dr. Wiles do you remember Will Reading, of Great Bend; John Collins, of Eureka; Sam Dolan, of Paola; Charles Alton, of Ottawa, and Arthur Steele, of Mound Valley, as inmates of the asylum during your superintendency?

Dr. Wiles: Oh, yes I remember them very well. They are among the older inmates and three of them have been inmates of the institution for about seven years. The other two, I believe, were brought in during the early part of my administration.

Reporter: What was the general character of these five boys?

Dr. Wiles: Well, with two exceptions they were very good boys. I never had any trouble with Alton, Steele or Collins, but Dolan and Reading gave me a good deal of trouble from a nameless habit with which they were afflicted.

Reporter: How did you treat them for this affliction?

Dr. Wiles: As soon as I found out they were addicted to the habit I had them placed in charge of attendants with instructions that the attendant should watch them constantly. After this I had no more trouble with one of the boys, but with the other I found it necessary to improvise what I called a "strait jacket," but which was, in reality, a sort of canvas bag with arms which were buckled together during the night. I found this contrivance did not prevent the boy from getting his usual rest, while it effectually stopped the practice. After this I had no further trouble with either of them. Of course the inclination remained and was exhibited at every opportunity but the attendant was always present to repress it and the results were entirely satisfactory. The other three boys gave me no trouble in this line. Of course, I had them under constant surveillance, and, as many of the inmates of this institution, being weak-minded, are liable, upon any and every occasion, to give full play to their inclinations, it was necessary and a part of my duties, to see that they were looked after properly and that these inclinations were repressed and their exercise prohibited.

Reporter: I suppose you attended the annual meeting of the superintendents of the Insane and Idiotic Asylums during your charge of the institution?

Dr. Wiles: I did.

Reporter: At any of these meetings was the proposition of castrating inmates ever presented or discussed?

Dr. Wiles: No, certainly not.

Reporter: In studying the history of such institutions have you ever known of castration being advised as a cure of such practices?

Dr. Wiles: No, sir.

Reporter: In your opinion was castration necessary, during your superintendency, to preserve the health and life of any of the inmates of the institution here?

Dr. Wiles: Not in the least.

Reporter: During your superintendency did you, at any time, and in any possible to prevent these practices?

Dr. Wiles: No, sir. Of course, occasionally I would hear of these practices and I would then take steps to put the inmates under the care of a proper attendant, and after discovering the disposition to indulge in such practices, I had but little difficulty in preventing them. Of course I used moral suasion, and told the boys of the distresses that would result to them from such practices and advised them and plead with them, for their own good, to abstain. Many of the boys seemed to be controlled by this sort of argument. With others it was necessary to use great attention and give them careful watching.

Reporter: Have you ever heard of castration being resorted to in instances of this kind?

Dr. Wiles: No, sir, never.

Reporter: How do you regard castration as a means of preventing indulgence of these practices among feeble minded children?

Dr. Wiles: I regard it as inhumane and unnecessary.

What reason Dr. Pilcher can have for these wholesale mutilations is a mystery to all with whom we have talked. The principle underlying the management of all public charities is that the most humane methods only should be employed. There is no question but that castration effectually cures the practices complained of—but they can be prevented with proper care, therefore it is the settled policy of all Boards of Charity to never employ the knife when other methods are available. In this instance, according to the testimony of Dr. Wiles, the practices were easily prevented. Castration would reduce the number of attendants necessary, so it may be that Dr. Pilcher was impelled to commit these mutilations

by a desire to "reform" the expenditures of the institution. If this is his policy he could make it eminently successful, and reduce the expense to a surprisingly low figure if he would perform "operations" on the throats of all the inmates, and throw their bodies in the well. It might not be humane but it would certainly cut down the necessary expenses to a figure satisfactory to an enthusiastic a "reformer" as Dr. Pilcher.

THE DEATH RATE.

One of the most surprising evidences of Pilcher's incompetency is shown by the record of deaths at the Asylum. During the FOUR YEARS and EIGHT MONTHS of Dr. Wiles superintendency the following inmates died:

M. T. Wallace, died July 6, 1890, of epilepsy.
Wallace Powell, died August 4, 1891, of pneumonia.
Lottie Fleck, died October 9, 1891, of dila.
May Wilson, died February 19, 1892, of consumption.
Ed. Keeling, died April 17, 1892, of epilepsy.
G. Parker, died August 2, 1892, of abscess.
B. Sanford, died December 9, 1892, of epilepsy.
Gus Smith, died March 13, 1893, of pneumonia.
Lillie Jet, died April 22, 1893, of consumption.

This is a total of nine deaths in four years and eight months. The average number of pupils in the institution during this period was 101. Annual death rate less than TWO PER CENT.

Dr. Pilcher took charge of the asylum in July, 1893, one year ago. Since then the following inmates have died:

M. Reator, died September 9, 1893, of heart failure.
Elizabeth Watkins, died September 18, 1893, of exhaustion.
E. Moser, died September 21, 1893, of convulsions.
Gertie Logan, died October 10, 1893, of prostration.
H. Anderson died December 4, 1893, of Enteric fever.
Maggie Murphy, died January 2, 1894, of consumption.
Ada Fleckinger, died January 2, 1894, of measles.
Mollie Simley, died February 27, 1894, of consumption.
E. McGowan, died February 13, 1894, of don't know.
Lucilla Short, died April 3, 1894, of typhoid fever.
B. L. Brown, died April 21, 1894, of nerve trouble.
Maude Blake, died May 23, 1894, of Bright's disease.
Lewis Burke, died June 14, 1894, of fever.
Chas. Billings, died July 10, 1894, of typhoid fever.

A total of FOURTEEN DEATHS in ONE YEAR, the average number of inmates during the year being ninety-one, the annual death rate being nearly SIXTEEN PER CENT.

Is not this comparison appalling? What manner of management is it that would let these poor children die as if they were in a pest house instead of an asylum? Is it the idea of the "Reform" administration that it is better economy to let the inmates of the Asylum die than to continue to care for them properly? Oh, what inhumanity! It should bring the blush of shame to every honest Kansan's face.

The utter incompetency of Dr. Pilcher is thoroughly understood in this community. Even those most charitably inclined toward him, feel that he is totally unfit for such a position. It only requires a visit to the institution to prove this. Then why, in the face of the evidence presented, with the children dying off like sheep in the shambles, with poor, helpless, innocent girls crying for protection, will Governor Lowelling delay removing this man?

In the name of common humanity, in the name of justice, in the name of morality, in the interest of common self-respect and decency, the COURIER, on behalf of every citizen of this state, demands the immediate removal of Dr. Pilcher.

Chas. Billings, the last name on the death list of Doctor Pilcher, is reported to be one of the boys castrated. The cause of death was given to the undertaker as "typhoid fever." To us it was given first as brain fever and again as dysentery. There are circumstances surrounding the burial, which indicate a desire for secrecy, hence the suspicion is held by many persons that the death resulted from the "surgical operation" of Doctor Pilcher. The death occurred, according to Dr. Emerson, six or eight weeks after the operation. These suspicions may or may not be well founded. We give them for what they are worth, but have taken steps to ascertain the facts, conclusively.

EXPERT TESTIMONY.

By this mail we are in receipt of a letter from Dr. C. T. Wilber, who was for eighteen years superintendent of the Illinois Asylum for Idiotic and Imbecile Youth, and for ten years prior to that time assistant in the New York Asylum. He is at present in charge of a large institution of like character at Kalamazoo, Mich. Dr. Wilber is the highest authority in the United States on the care and treatment of this class of unfortunates, having devoted his whole life to the work. His letter under date of Kalamazoo, August 17, 1894, says:

"As to the practice of castrating either feeble minded boys or the insane for masturbation, it is unlawful in most states and unjustifiable, and the individuals practicing it should be placed in the penitentiary just as quick as possible for such atrocious practices. It was never practiced in institutions in this or other countries. Respectfully yours,
C. T. WILBER.

This is the opinion of one of the most eminent men on the care and treatment of this class of unfortunates in the world.

THE POPULIST SENATE.

Out of forty members composing the last state senate the populist party elected twenty-three. They had a strong working majority, and are responsible for the acts of that body. They told the people the republicans had been guilty of useless expenditures in conducting the business of the senate, and pledged themselves to practice rigid economy and enforce needed reforms. What was the result after the election? They gathered at Topeka, bringing with them their sons, daughters, nephews, nieces, and uncles, seeking in every way to provide them with fat places. While twenty competent persons could have transacted all the work pertaining to the senate, they actually placed one hundred and eight employees on the pay roll. Out of that number eighty-two were relatives of senators. Twenty-eight enrolling and engrossing clerks were appointed the first of the session at three dollars a day each, although but one bill passed the senate until thirty-six days after the senate convened. The engrossing and enrolling work of the senate cost over five thousand dollars, when a proposition was submitted to do the entire work for three hundred and thirty dollars. The employees of the senate cost the state over twenty thousand dollars, although several populist senators said they would take a contract to have the same work done for three thousand dollars.

In the matter of appropriations, their pledges to economize were recklessly disregarded. Take the appropriation for the Industrial school at Beloit. In Senate Bill No. 175, providing for its maintenance, they reduced the pay of the washerwoman fifteen dollars a year, the matron one hundred and fifty dollars a year, the engineer from four hundred and eighty to four hundred dollars a year, and the chaplain from two hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars a year, and then raised the appropriation for the bank commissioner's office, presided over by John W. Bridenbath, from fifty three hundred to ten thousand dollars a year. In Senate Bill No. 194 they reduced the pay of the night watchman from two hundred and forty to one hundred and eighty dollars a year, and then raised the appropriation of the adjutant general's office, as shown by Senate Bill No. 417, from twenty-five thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, to forty-five thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, twenty thousand dollars more than had ever been appropriated before for that office for the same period of time. They reduced the salaries of the four janitors in the state house, as shown by Senate Bill No. 417, ten dollars a month each, and then passed a miscellaneous appropriation bill appropriating the enormous sum of one hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars, and this was outside of the regular appropriation bills which provided for all the expenses of the judicial and executive departments as well as the different state institutions.

They reduced the salary of the sewing teacher at the Beloit school seventy-five dollars a year, and then passed a bill creating a court of appeals that would have cost the state sixty thousand dollars a year. The reduction only affected a poor woman, while the court was created to provide places for Webb, King, Dozier, Fitzgerald, Nicholson and Clemens, as judges, and a host of other lobbyists as clerks, reporters and bailiffs. The populist senator from Osage county, Senator Jumper, left before the close of the session, and declared that the appropriations being pushed through the senate were infamous and without reason, and that he wanted to disclaim any

part in them and would condemn and denounce them in the next campaign. They reduced the pay of the already poorly paid employees of the state institutions, but did not reduce the pay of a single officer or clerk in the state house, where salaries range from fifteen hundred to three thousand dollars a year. It was openly charged on the floor of the senate, and not denied, that the populist members did not dare to reduce the pay of any one that was considered a man of influence, and the action of the senate demonstrated the truth of this charge.

SOME PULLMAN HISTORY.

Governor Lowelling, a few days since, in a studied and inflammatory interview, expressed a deep sympathy for the strikers contending with the Pullman Palace Car company and their sympathizers. His purpose was doubtless to make political capital for himself. The true character of the Governor is plainly manifest when you compare his late interview with his course in the spring of 1893, in connection with the action of the State Board of Railway Assessors.

After years of litigation, when the Pullman Palace Car company, having been defeated in the courts, first consented to give in its property for assessment, it gave \$13,500 as the valuation of a palace car. The State Board of Railway Assessors, in fixing the assessed valuation, put it at \$6,000 which was probably in about the same proportion to its cost or value as other property in the state is assessed. What is known as the tourist's car, which is a very plain car, and a car in which the laboring man could afford to take a night's rest, the cost of a berth being at that time only fifty cents, was assessed at \$1,500 per car. The State Board of Railway Assessors, composed of the present populist state officers, whose actions were passed upon and approved by the Governor in his capacity as a member of the State Board of Equalization, reduced the assessed valuation of the Pullman palace cars from \$6,000 to \$4,500, making a reduction of \$1,500 per car, and raised the assessed valuation of the tourist car, in which the poor man rides, from \$1,500 to \$3,000. There are many more palace cars that run through Kansas than tourist cars, so the result was that the sum total of the assessed valuation of Pullman's property was reduced nearly 25 per cent. The tourist car, with the plain, comfortable bed in which the laborer and poor man could ride for fifty cents, had the assessed valuation doubled, and as a result Mr. Pullman takes advantage of the opportunity which the reform administration gave him, and raised the price of a berth to one dollar.

A very short time after this reduction the assessed valuation of the property of the Pullman Palace Car Company, Mr. Lowelling and his state administration were given a free ride in a Pullman palace train to the World's Fair and return. The train in which they left the capital city of this state was a gorgeous one. Mr. Lowelling was not then complaining of Pullman's iron heel, but he did complain in his recent interview most bitterly in regard to the porter's fees, from which we judge that the service of the porters were not donated.

And in the face of these facts Governor Lowelling is now posing as the laboring man's friend and the enemy of "corporate greed."

Hon. W. E. Rightmire, who was the candidate of the populist party four years ago for Chief Justice, and who is still a member of that party, on June 8th, wrote an open letter to the Hutchinson News of this state, and over his own signature made the following exposition of the hypocrisy of the present administration in its pretenses of being the people's friend as against the corporations:

RIGHTMIRE'S STATEMENT.

"After the State Board of Railway Assessors of the state of Kansas had assessed the rolling stock of the Pullman Car Company, operated in the state of Kansas in 1887, and had refused to reconsider its action, as the time approached when the taxes levied upon the said assessment were about to be collected, the Pullman Company brought an action in the Circuit Court of the United States in and for the first division of the district of Kansas against all of the counties in the state through which its cars were run, and against the county treasurers of such counties, case No. 5773, asking for an injunction restraining the collection of the taxes assessed against the said company.

"The injunction was granted on the 1st day of February, 1888, and on final hearing in said court the decree of the court was for a dissolution of the injunction, and the validity of the assessment and the levy of the taxes was affirmed by the circuit court.

"The Pullman company gave bond and carried the case to the supreme court of the United States. While this case was pending in the supreme court of the United States, in 1888, a new case was filed by the said company against the said defendant, No. 6118, and on the 12th day of December, 1888, an injunction was granted restraining the collection of the taxes of 1888, subject to the de-

cision of the supreme court in the case pending therein, No. 5773. A supplementary bill was filed in case No. 6118, and an injunction was granted restraining the collection of the taxes of 1889, on the 12th day of December, 1889. Another supplementary bill was filed in case No. 6118, and an injunction granted on the same conditions restraining the collection of the taxes of 1890 on the 17th day of December, 1890. The case in the supreme court was decided in 1891, and on the 11th day of December, 1891, the mandate of the supreme court of the United States was filed in the said circuit court, affirming the decree of the circuit court, and establishing the validity of the assessment and levy of taxes thereon.

"In all of these cases the Attorney-General of Kansas appeared as the attorney of record of the counties defendant, and when the mandate was filed in the circuit court, the attention of the attorney-general was called to the matter by the clerk of said circuit court, but nothing has been done in the matter to the present time.

"In 1893, in February, I called the attention of the governor and the attorney-general personally to this matter at different times, and informed them that the Pullman company was taking advantage of the state of affairs in the circuit court, and compromising the claims of the counties in which its taxes were large amounts, and escaping the legal penalties for non-payment, and asked that such action be taken as would save the counties the penalties and the full amounts of the taxes, and was promised by both that action would be taken at once.

"Two months afterwards, on inquiring of Clerk Sharritt, I learned that nothing had been done, and at once went to the capitol to see the governor and attorney-general to learn why nothing had been done, and I was plainly told that it was none of my business; that they were running the state, and would run it in their own way. I returned to my office with a determination to watch for results, and what were they? First, a reduction of the assessed value of Pullman cars \$1,500 per car in the assessment of 1893 by the board of railway assessors. Second, a free Pullman train to take the state officers and their invited guests to Chicago and return for Kansas week at the World's Fair, and nothing done yet in the matter in court. On the calling of the docket of the United States circuit court for the present June term at Leavenworth, while John T. Little, attorney-general of Kansas, was present to protect the interests of his private clients in the case of the Black Bob Indian lands, he sat in the court room and looked wise when case No. 6118, of the Pullman Palace Car company vs. Allen county, et al, was called. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'As a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth,' and the case was continued to the November term of the court; and probably by that time the Pullman company will have its delinquent taxes all settled in the different counties by its pretended generosity of paying the same before the injunction cases are decided. If the counties will throw off the penalties and interest.

"Knowing that the true populists of Kansas only need to know the truth to retire the present state officers to the obscurity from which they arose, I rest my cause in their honesty and justice."

W. E. RIGHTMIRE.

Do the people of Kansas believe, in the face of these facts, that Governor Lowelling and the present state administration are honest and worthy of their endorsement?

JUSTICE ALLEN'S LETTER.

STATE OF KANSAS,
SUPREME COURT.
Topeka, Kansas, May 19, 1894.

To Gov. Percy Daniels, Girard, Kansas:

MY DEAR COLONEL:—I am very greatly disturbed about the political situation and had hoped to have an opportunity to have a talk with you. The time for holding the county conventions to elect delegates is so near that I thought best to write you a line though I wished quite as much to get your views concerning the situation as to impart my own.

It seems to be generally conceded that the drift of sentiment is all in favor of the re-nomination of Governor Lowelling and the other state officers. If the people were cognizant of the facts and understood the kind of a campaign that must necessarily follow, should have no fears of serious mistakes being made by the convention; but I do not think that the masses of the people have much idea what is really going on. You know there has been much talk about the administration of affairs in the larger cities. Within the past few days I have learned, not from the enemies, but from the friends of the administration of circumstances showing that the administration of affairs in some, if not all, of the cities of the first class, is thoroughly corrupt, and that to the knowledge at least of the governor. I have also been told of circumstances which tended very strongly to indicate that this condition of affairs meets with his sanction. I cannot by letter undertake to put together the various things that I have learned, without going out of my way at all to do so, nor do I wish at present to show my authorities. In fact, I very much prefer not to place myself in the attitude of an accuser of anybody, and what I wish to suggest to you, and wish all the people could know, is that very serious charges are now made, and that during the campaign we shall unquestionably have them to face. It is an open secret that the prohibitory law has not been enforced in the larger cities. You know I am not, to draw it mildly, a prohibition crank, yet it is very easy for me to see how readily corrupt practices become associated with systematic disregard and violation of law. Our opponents in the campaign can start out with the clear and admitted proposition that the prohibitory law has been gen-

erally disregarded in the large cities. I fear, also, that they can easily show systematic hoodluming by the police departments. How much evidence will then be required to convince those of our people who are especially interested in the enforcement of the prohibitory law, that the administration is directly connected with all these practices? Worst of all, I dread possible developments showing direct connection of the executive office with these matters. We have all the matters to defend that we can possibly carry without having to meet charges of corruption.

Some of my Lincoln county friends have written me, inquiring as to the practicability of placing your name at the head of the ticket, and I think the delegation from our county would be very glad to take that stand, though of course I do not now know whose delegation will be, nor under what instructions they will come here.

I hope the Crawford county delegation, which played a very important part in the Wichita convention, will not come here with its hands tied, by instructing in favor of a re-nomination of the present state officers, but will be free to act as seems best after consulting with those from other parts of the state.

Of course I do not wish what I write you to be made public, but I have no objections to your showing this letter to such of our discreet friends as you think best, if any. Very truly yours,
S. H. ALLEN.

INTERESTING STATISTICS.

"The other day I called on ex-President Harrison, at the Hawthorn, a beautiful apartment house overlooking Central Park," says Eli Perkins. "The ex-president looked happy and contented as he held and patted his beautiful grandchildren, but I could see a feeling of sadness come over him when he spoke of the hard times which had come upon us."

"On the first of January, 1893," he said, "we had in the treasury \$108,000,000 in gold. Last year we sold bonds which, with the premium put on them, put \$58,000,000 more gold in the treasury, making \$166,000,000. Or this \$166,000,000 we have only \$35,000,000 left. We have lost in this time \$131,000,000. It is not a happy thing to think of," and then he sighed and looked over into the park.

"These gold losses are more staggering compared to the daily loss of \$15,000,000 through idle labor," I said. The president listened but did not reply, but looked at me inquiringly. S. I continued:

"Tom Reed, with the census for his authority, says in good protective tariff times, when the wheels are all turning 15,000,000 out of the 70,000,000 were at work. Some received 50 cents a day, some \$10 and some \$1. The average was \$2. So \$30,000,000 went into circulation every day. The boys earned it and spent it. Now one-third of these workmen are idle, the mills are stopped and \$10,000,000 is lost every day. The 10,000,000 people at work have had their wages reduced 25 per cent to match the Wilson bill. There is \$4,000,000 more lost every day in what is bankrupting the nation. The income tax losses on sugar and all the little cent vagaries of democracy are nothing as compared to the labor loss."

The ex-president nodded his head.

"This terrible loss of \$45,000,000 a month or \$500,000,000 a year," I continued, "is what makes the hard times." It makes the strikes. It makes the Coxy tramps.

"Something is doing it," said the ex-president.

"What will change this disaster to prosperity," I asked.

"Why the same protective tariff that filled the treasury with gold for thirty-three years—the same protective tariff that enabled the nation to pay off \$2,000,000,000 of our national debt in thirty-three years; the same protective tariff that kept all the wheels turning and 15,000,000 people at work."

"These are interesting statistics," said Mr. Harrison, "and they ought to be put where the people can read upon them."

POPULISTS ON POPULISM.

"The most corrupt administration known in history,"—Benj. H. Ciover.

"I have facts in my possession to prove that the Lowelling administration is the most dishonest and corrupt that has cursed Kansas,"—Mary E. Lease.

"The trouble with our present leaders in Kansas is they want office more than they want to aid the masses,"—Percy Daniels, Lieutenant Governor.

"There never was a time in the history of this town when gamblers, policy shoppers, pool sellers, lottery people, crap shooters and jointsters, were in such force or in such cover as now. The conditions are such that nine-tenths of our people believe that the administration is a beneficiary of the lawlessness in this town,"—Senator Taylor, Pop. of Wyandotte county.

The Paola Spirit says: "Judge Hiram Stevens, John W. Bell and F. A. Prather who helped pile up the big People's party vote in Miami county in 1890, are all back in the republican party."

"You know there has been much talk about the administration of affairs in the larger cities. Within the past few days I have learned, not from enemies, but from friends of the administration, of circumstances showing that the administration of affairs in some, if not all, of the cities of the first class, is thoroughly corrupt, and that to the knowledge at least of the governor,"—Associate Justice Allen.

"Kansas Populism stands for gambling dens and policy shops, and Governor Lowelling so declares it. Kansas Populism stands for more lawdy houses and more prostitution, and Governor Lowelling so declares it. Kansas Populism stands for moral, financial and material ruin, and Governor Lowelling so declares it,"—Cyrus Corning, (Pop.)